

"Citizen" Answers Mr. Moore's Card. TO THE VOTERS OF PARIS:

When I saw the article "Political Catechism" in the paper I expected to hear from Mr. Moore. After the undisputed facts and cold figures in "Political Catechism" were given out to the voters of Paris to read, Mr. Moore, with all his blinding prejudices in favor of his old friends who kept him in the office of City Attorney so long, with a big salary, saw—anybody could see—Mr. Moore could see, that his friends O'Brien & Co., needed whitewashing and needed it badly.

Mr. Moore says in reference to this Ordinance, whereby the salary of the Mayor was raised from \$300.00 to \$1200.00 per year only 12 days before the general election, and too late for the people of Paris to bring out an opposing candidate: "There is no statute requiring such Ordinances to be passed at any particular time." Thanks, Mr. Moore, thanks. I thought you were going to prove that O'Brien & Co. had to pass the Ordinance just when they did and could not have passed it at any time sooner than they did, which of course would have been a good defense. But in your card you said that they did not have to wait until the possibility of opposition was cut off. You admit that they could have passed the Ordinance at any time and in time to give the voters of Paris a chance to bring out a candidate after that salary hoisting ordinance was passed. Mr. Moore, you left your friends in a bad fix. In your card you have admitted this without explaining why they did in fact wait until opposition was cut off to pass this obnoxious Ordinance. Does Mr. Moore believe, or does any body believe, that if O'Brien & Co. had passed an ordinance in time for opposition, it would, as to the Mayor, have made a jump from \$300.00 per year to \$1200.00 per year?

No sir! anybody can look at that ordinance and tell it was passed after opposition was cut off. It looks like it! It smells like it! Mr. Moore, you make another striking admission; you admit that Mr. O'Brien's vote was necessary to pass this Ordinance. Thank you again. I thought you would saddle it on the fellows who got less of the benefit. Is it possible that Mr. O'Brien, seeing his vote was necessary before this ordinance could pass, voted for it? Voted to increase his own salary from \$300.00 to \$1200.00 a year, knowing he could defeat it by one shake of the head? Mr. Moore, are you not mistaken in saying he voted for it? Surely you forget! Surely Mr. O'Brien stood up with a glorified look of self denial and said: "When I offered my name as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Mayor of Paris, the office paid only \$300.00 per year; I was willing to run for it at that salary; I asked for it when it was that; since I have been a member of this Council I have repeatedly voted to allow my predecessors—the Mayors of Paris—\$300.00 per year; does anybody think that I could forget my duty to the people of Paris? Does anybody think for a moment that an ordinance shall rest wholly upon my vote to give myself four times as much salary as I ever voted for any other Mayor? When my own interests conflict with the interests of the people of Paris, shall I listen to the demon of selfishness and forget the dear people of Paris? The Gods forbid!"

Now Mr. Moore, you say O'Brien did not speak thusly, but contrarywise voted to raise his salary, not to double it merely, not to treble it, but to quadruple it.

But there is another sensational admission in Mr. Moore's card: "In the discharge of my duty and without being required to do so by any one and without consulting anyone, I prepared the ordinance in question and gave it to Mr. Webb, and told him to have it passed by the Council—the ordinance was complete when I gave it to Mr. Webb with the exception of the amounts of the salaries which were left blank. The ordinance added very largely to the Mayor's duties and made the position much more onerous than ever before."

Of course we all understand how the Council when they desire to pass an ordinance and decide what they want to ordain, can call upon the City Attorney to draw up what the Council has decided to pass. Is it possible that Mr. Moore, as he says, before the Council met, and without saying a word to any member of the Council, in a moment of prophetic anticipation, mysteriously guessed in advance what the Councilmen wanted passed in the way of an ordinance, and knew in advance that, contrary to what had ever been done in the City before—the Council would, at its next meeting, consolidate the office of Mayor with the position of Chairman of the Improvement Committee? Wonderful prophetic vision! Are you not mistaken, Mr. Moore? Did not the same spirit of your bosom friend and office-sharing companion, Mr. O'Brien, which asserted itself at the moment he voted to increase his salary from \$300.00 to \$1200.00 per year, take a peep over your shoulder in your office when you were preparing that ordinance, and smile at this little combination of office (Mayor and Chairman of the Improvement Committee) as being a mathematical prodigy in the way of a salary lifter, as will presently appear?

Mr. Moore says that while the office of Mayor had always paid \$300.00 per year, this ordinance increased its duties. How? By adding to the office of Mayor the duties of Chairman of the Improvement Committee.

Heretofore what had the office of Chairman of the Improvement Committee paid? Nothing. What, in cities of the fourth class in Kentucky does it pay? Nothing—with one exception only and in that case, \$2.50 for each meeting of the City Council. Then the matter stands thus mathematically: Former salary of Mayor.....\$ 300.00
Former salary of Chairman of Improvement Committee..... 00.00
Combined offices result.....\$1,200.00

Some of the voters may not understand the sleight-of-hand performance by which adding together an office paying \$300.00 per year to an office paying nothing, gives a total of \$1,200.00! But they can all see the result and they know what to call it.

Another still more remarkable prophetic vision! How did Mr. Moore know in advance without talking to any member of the Council (as he says) that the members of the Council would at its next meeting, for the first time in the history of Paris, vote themselves pay, and draw in advance an ordinance allowing pay to them (the amount only being left blank)? What was the evident purpose of inserting this clause about paying the Councilmen? Why it possessed supernatural power.

Can Mr. Moore make anybody believe that his office companion did not lean over his shoulder and smile at this little piece of strategy about paying the Councilmen when the Councilmen had not said a word about wanting any pay (as Mr. Moore confesses)?

Mr. Moore says: "During the eight years I served the city in that capacity, it was not only my official duty but it was my invariable custom to prepare such ordinances and notify the Council," etc. When, Mr. Moore, did you ever before prepare such an ordinance? When before in all the history of Paris, was an ordinance ever drawn by you, or anybody else, consolidating the office of Mayor with the position of Chairman of the Improvement Committee, and allowing pay to Councilmen? Why, for the first time in the history of Paris was such an ordinance drawn just before the election and too late for opposition, but just in time for your friend O'Brien to reap the benefit?

Snail we believe Mr. Moore possessed supernatural powers of knowing things in advance, and without consulting any member of the Council as he says drew up in advance an ordinance to meet exactly what the Council was going to do at the next meeting, different from what had ever been done before in Paris by any Council. Or shall we believe that Mr. Moore's memory fails him, and that while Mr. Moore wrote the ordinance, as he says, that O'Brien, the power behind the throne in the city Hall, dictated its terms, as he was accustomed to do in City matters, and as he was more interested in its passage than any body else? Again, Mr. Moore says: "Mr. O'Brien could hardly vote against the passage of an ordinance fixing the salaries of all city officers." Don't everybody know that if O'Brien had stood up and said to the Council that the salary was too big, and that it was not treating the people right to allow such a salary, that the other Councilmen would have fixed the amount at any reduced sum O'Brien stated? As O'Brien was going to collect the salary, of course the other Councilmen would have been satisfied with any less amount which was satisfactory to O'Brien. O'Brien could have blocked the passage of the ordinance and forced them to reduce his salary, if they would not have voluntarily done so.

Again, even if the other Councilmen could have forced an ordinance of \$1200.00 a year, could not O'Brien have refused to accept any such unjust compensation? In other words, can Mr. Moore impress any voters in Paris with such transparent argument?

"CITIZEN."

City Politics And The City School. To the Voters of Paris:

As a citizen who is deeply interested in the Public Schools of the city and who believes that the Board of Education is and should always be an independent body, free from the dictation of the Mayor and Council, I appeal to every Democrat who goes to the polls next Thursday not to forget the fact, when he comes to vote for Mayor and Council, that it was Mr. O'Brien and the Council running with him who some two years ago undertook to coerce the Board of Education in its election of Superintendent of the Schools, and who even went to the unwarranted length of passing a resolution of Council demanding that the Board of Education dismiss the Superintendent who is recognized by the general public as the most efficient officer the school has ever had; and who, when the Board refused to accede to their demands determined to elect a new Board.

The public has not forgotten the storm of indignation aroused by this effort to dominate the School Board nor how their candidates, excellent gentlemen though they were, were smothered under the ballots of the people, the majority of the old Board being greater than the total vote of their opponents.

Remember also that after the people had voted that \$45,000.00 worth of bonds be sold to erect the new school building, it was Mr. O'Brien and his Council who refused to turn this money over to the Board of Education who alone had the right to control and expend it, and that a suit had to be brought and several hundred dollars of the people's money paid in litigation to compel them to turn over this money.

The withholding of this fund was simply a continuance of the old war which for several years the Mayor and his Council had been waging against the Board of Education, and which must go on until the people elect a new Mayor and Council, or failing to do that until the School Board submits to the domination of the present Mayor and Council. That is a serious situation for the school which all of us know is the most valuable asset the city possesses. Remember that the Board of Education is a separate and independent body elected by the people, just as the Mayor and Council, and responsible to nobody but the people. When you have a Mayor and Council who are determined to make the Board of Education a mere adjunct to the Mayor's office, taking orders from and carrying out the will of that office, if you expect your school where your children are educated and which you maintain with your money to be of any value whatever, you will hasten to elect a Mayor and Council who will not try to dictate to or control the School Board but who will work in sympathy with them and try to build the school up to the highest level of efficiency.

If Mr. Hinton and the new Council are elected, every one of whom stood gallantly by the School Board against the efforts of Mr. O'Brien to control it, a most liberal and sympathetic policy towards the people's schools may confidently be expected. If Mr. O'Brien and his Council are re-elected what can be predicted for the schools except a continuance of the frictions and antagonisms which have done so much to injure the schools in the last two years? If you are a friend of the Public Schools ponder this before you cast your ballot.

PATRON OF CITY SCHOOL.

Communication From "Another Citizen."

To the Citizens and Voters of Paris:

Do not be alarmed by the numerous articles in the county papers, with which we are treated, oh, so often! They are all written by the same writer and signed by the same signer. He has as many signatures as the centipede has legs. So don't be alarmed, only read, grin and hear it, it will soon be over. Be gentle with him and let your sympathies prevail, for it is as natural for him to write as it is for the ox to pull when driven by his master. As the drowning man he says, "Willie write," and Willie writes. Seeing therefore, that every article signed "Democrat," "Voter," "Citizen," etc., etc., emanates from the same quill at the dictation of the same chief, do you wonder that his articles are taken lightly by the public?

He first treats you with an article entitled "Political Catechism." He tells you in that, that Hinton was Mayor for about sixteen years at three hundred dollars per year, and that he could have been Mayor for sixteen more years for so very much less than we pay our Mayor now. That is true, but holy smoke and stars of Bethlehem! Suppose he had been Mayor for sixteen years longer, where would Paris be now? It would be just where his scribe says it would be. In the same class with Middleshoro, Winchester, Carlisle, Millersburg and Clintonville. What did he do during his administration? Cite me one thing done in the interests of the city of Paris to commemorate his services as our Mayor. Did he close the saloons on Sunday? No, if he had the saloonkeeper would have rented from someone else. Did he have ample fire protection and low insurance rates? Did we have good streets and sewage? Did we have low gas light rates, and why?

No, none of these. The city was turned over to O'Brien and his cabinet in as crude a state as the ideal Carlisle and Clintonville of the scribe's imagination. It remained for him to give us, and our wives and children quiet and holy Sundays, the only Mayor ever known to accomplish it successfully. It remained for him to see that our little city was stagnant and to start a progressive movement in every way. To him and his co-workers we are indebted for our good streets, sewage, fire protection and other things that should have been ours years ago, when Hinton was Mayor. It was he who forced the water works company to live up to their contracts as to water pressure and hose regulations.

The scribe next weaves another leg into the signature "Patron of City Schools."

He attacks O'Brien for displaying one of the virtues which has crowned him with success. That of not pandering to the masses when his duty called. He was a servant of the people, subservient to their interests and amenable to the law. The best lawyers differed as to who was the guardian of the

A CARD FROM MAYOR O'BRIEN. To the Democratic Voters of the City of Paris.

Gentlemen:—In making the race for the Democratic nomination for Mayor, I make no appeal to your prejudices or passions but simply submit my official record for your approval or disapproval. From my boyhood up until the time that I was elected a member of the Council, my opponent had been in absolute control of the affairs of the City of Paris and when I entered public life in December 1897, his policies were in full force and effect. I found every street a mud hole; such a thing as a decent thoroughfare being unknown. There were no sewers of any sort and the city was poorly lighted under a moon-light schedule and then only until twelve o'clock. Since that time every important street has been reconstructed, a sewerage system costing \$65,000 has been installed and the city well lighted all and every night. The water company has been forced to provide pure and wholesome water and furnish adequate pressure in case of fire.

The police and fire departments have been improved and Paris today has the reputation throughout the State of being the best regulated city in the Commonwealth.

When I first went into office, the tax rate was \$1.40 and even with that rate the city treasury was practically bankrupt. The bonded indebtedness amounted to \$75,000 and there was in addition a floating indebtedness of \$36,000, making a total of \$111,000. A man who worked on the street for a dollar a day had to sell his warrant for eighty cents on the dollar and the purchaser of it had frequently to hold it a year before having it paid. On an average tax rate of \$1.34, six cents less than I found it, which includes the five cents levied for the past four years for the maintenance of the library. All of the improvements mentioned above have been made and paid for out of the general fund and the city debt of \$111,000 has been reduced to \$40,000.

These results have been accomplished by equalizing the assessment and forcing the rich to share with the poor the burden of taxation and by requiring banks and other corporations to pay the taxes required of them by law. No bank or other corporation had, previous to my election to the Council, ever paid any franchise tax to the City. These corporations were not only made to pay \$75,000 in back taxes but are today paying into the Treasury the sum of \$8,000 each year.

The only time in the history of the city that saloons have been closed has been during my administration, all of my predecessors permitting them to remain open upon the Sabbath, although the law forbidding this was the same then that it is today. My first official act was to issue an order closing such places and this order has been strictly complied with. At my request the Council passed the ordinance prohibiting minors from entering saloons and as a result of these actions, there has not been an indictment returned against any person in the city for a violation of the liquor or gaming laws at the last ten terms of the Bourbon Circuit Court.

The manner in which the affairs of the city of Paris will be conducted during the next few years is of much more importance to you than either the personality of Mr. Hinton or myself. If you believe that it is to your interest, as citizens and tax-payers that the present policies in force should be continued, I will appreciate your support. If you believe that my opponent, Mr. Hinton, is the best qualified and can better serve the interests of the city and yourself, then you should vote for him. I am more than willing to leave the determination of this question to your own reason and judgment and as both he and I have filled the position, it should be easy for you to decide it upon its merits.

Looking back over my official connection with the City of Paris, I can say with truth that there is no official act of mine that I regret, no vote of mine upon any important question that I would change if I could. If re-elected, I promise to give you the same sort of an administration of your affairs that I have given during my present term. If defeated, I shall retire with the approval of my own conscience and the satisfaction of knowing that I have, at all times and under all circumstances did that, which in my judgment, was for the best interests of the City of Paris and of its people.

Respectfully,
JAS. M. O'BRIEN.

funds voted for a public school building. He was advised by the best judges of law, that he and the council had control of it. He was determined, and rightly so, that it should not be put into brick and mortar, furniture, carpets, matting, wall paper, pictures, blinds and bric-a-brac until the proper tribunals passed upon who was the legal custodian of those funds.

Two articles in one issue, Holy Moses! The scribe next delivers himself of an undigested heap and unfurls another leg into "Citizen."

He first calls Tommy Moore a liar and turns around and thanks him for telling the truth. Oh, how that twelve hundred hurts. Let us pause and go back a little.

Paris: Small, dirty, dark, noisy and unholy on Sunday, unprogressive. Mayor, Hinton. Three hundred dollars per year.

Ten or twelve years later:

Paris: Growing, thrifty, clean, light, quiet and orderly on Sunday progressive. Mayor, O'Brien. Twelve hundred per year.

How it has progressed since O'Brien took hold. O'Brien realized, the council saw and the people understood that no man could afford to take upon himself the duties devolving upon the Mayor or to conduct Paris as it should be for three hundred dollars a year. His duties were enlarged, his labor more than tripled naturally his salary should be commensurate. By his untiring and conscientious efforts he has taken Paris out of the scribe's class of ideal little towns, where the Mayor and Council work for nothing and nothing is expected of them and placed her into the class where she rightfully belongs, when the Mayor and Council are paid and held strictly accountable for an honest and efficient execution of the many arduous duties placed upon them just as is done in every other city, where thrift and progress prevail. No one seemed to care so powerful much for this office until Paris had been completely and miraculously changed from a village to a city, made possible only by a young man of energy, honesty good judgment and a salary sufficient to enable him to apply himself and devote his time to his duties. Then and not until then, after O'Brien has won his spurs and the gratitude and admiration of the citizens of Paris, does Hinton come along and ask for all the salary and a division of the laurels.

Just one other thing and thereby hangs a tale. Here's the rub. Hinton and his scribe have never forgiven O'Brien for placing in the city treasury several years ago, the back taxes the Banks owed us. That was a pill hard for Friday and his master to swallow. That money, amounting to fifty-five thousand dollars, was as much the property of the city as her city school is her property. Hinton and his vassal caused the city to expend thousands of dollars in litigation to collect these back taxes, which the highest courts in the land decided were properly ours. Your interests are far better safe-guarded when in the hands of one whose personal interests do not come in conflict with yours.

Why should we retire O'Brien, who has made the city, and advance Hinton, whom the city has made, who has no need for the office on the surface But listen! Look out for the undercurrents.

To progress and thrive, energy is essential. The world is fast realizing (and statistics bear it out) the superior-

ity of the young man over the old. After one's three score years and ten, one begins to deteriorate and one's responsibilities deteriorate as well. Let us not attempt to make new history, but a new chapter in the old; reward the deserving and our interests are safe and our progress assured.

ANOTHER CITIZEN.

A Commendable Young Man.

An incident happened yesterday that should decide every man how to vote next Thursday.

A young man filling a most responsible position was walking up street with a hatchet in his hand. A candidate overtook him, took the hatchet, wrapped a five dollar bill around the handle and handed it back.

In astonishment and humiliation, the young man replied, after returning his filthy money: "Mr. , you are too old a man for me to tell you just what I think of you, but if one of your sons had attempted this, I would brain him with this hatchet."

Remember this when you go to the polls Thursday.

VOTER.

BIRTHS.

—Born, on September 13, to the wife of George Fronk, nee Wheeler, a daughter; third born.

—Born, on Saturday night, Sept. 18, to the wife of J. T. Richey, nee Miss Maggie Connelly, a ten-pound daughter.

—Born, yesterday, at Clintonville to the wife of Charlie Claypole, a son.

Paris Grand.

L. A. BELL, Lessee and Manager.

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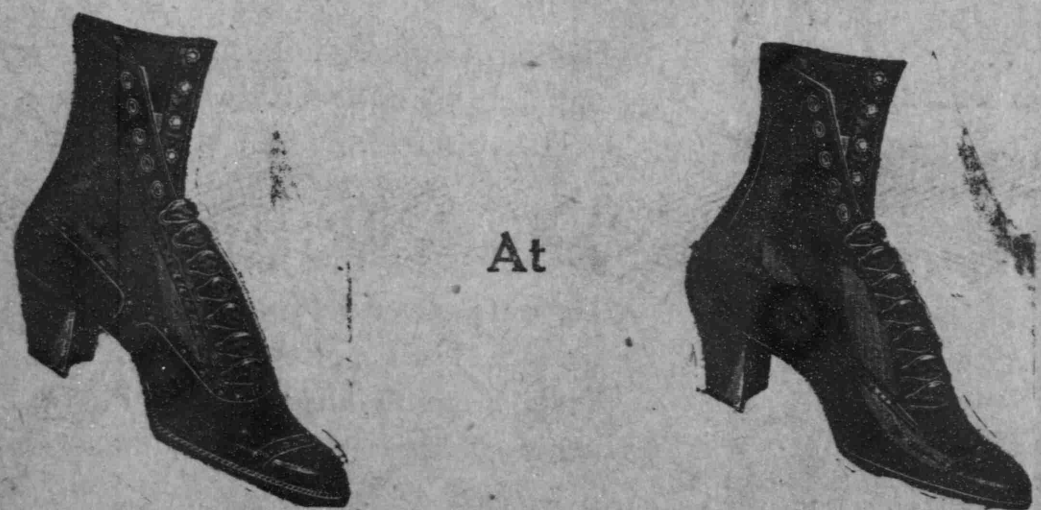
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